



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TEXAS 75202 – 2733

APR 24 2018

Mr. Butch Tongate
Secretary
New Mexico Environment Department
P.O. Box 5469
Santa Fe, NM 87502

RE: Approval of the request to withdraw *Total Maximum Daily Loads for Aluminum in Rio Chamita, Rio Puerco, and Whitewater Creek*

Dear Mr. Tongate:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 6 has reviewed the updates to the New Mexico Statewide Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) transmitted to me on March 20, 2018. Following EPA's review and evaluation of the WQMP updates, EPA is pleased to approve the withdrawal of the 2001 dissolved aluminum TMDL for Whitewater Creek, 2007 dissolved aluminum TMDL for Rio Puerco, and the 2003 dissolved aluminum TMDL for Rio Chamita.

The WQMP updates have been certified by the Governor's Designee and have undergone public participation as required by 40 CFR Part 25.

EPA appreciates New Mexico Environment Department's continuing efforts to maintain the WQMP in an efficient and timely manner. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me directly at (214) 665-7101, or your staff may contact Laura Hunt, TMDL Coordinator at (214) 665-9729.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David F. Garcia", is written over a faint, larger signature.

David F. Garcia, P.E.
Acting Director
Water Division

cc: Lynette Guervara, NMED, Assessment and TMDL Team
Kris Barrios, NMED Acting Program Manager for Monitoring,
Assessment & Standards Section
John Verheul, NMED, Office of General Counsel